II. *A Catalogue of ſome* Guinea-Plants, *with their* Native Names *and* Virtues; *ſent to* James Petiver, *Apothecary, and Fellow of the Royal Society; with his* Remarks *on them. Communicated in a Letter to Dr.* Hans Sloane. *Secret. Reg. Soc.*

SIR,

THE Following Plants, with their *Native Names* and *Vertues*, I ſometime ſince received from my Worthy and Reverend Friend, Mr. *John Smyth*, whilſt he was *Miniſter* to the *Royal African Company* in the *Engliſh Factory* at *Cabo Corſo*, vulgarly called *Cape Coaſt*, in *Guinea*.

It were, Sir, needleſs to tell you the many Advantages that would accrue to the Art or Myſtery of Phyſick, if the *Vertues* of all *Simples* were more nicely inquired into, or better known: I ſhall therefore wave it here, and only preſent you with an *African Materia Medica*, whoſe innocent Practice conſiſts of no more Art than Compoſition, as you may ſee by the following *Method, viz.*

1. *Aclowa*, ſo called by the Natives in *Guinea*, dried and rub'd on all the Body is good for the Crocoes (or Itch.) Mr. *John Smyth.*

Colutea Scorpioides Guineenſis Tragacantha Foliis, nobis. Its *Leaves* very much reſembling thoſe of *Tragacantha*, are ſet by Pairs, to the Number of Twelve or Sixteen, and ſometimes Twenty, each at a very ſmall Diſtance, *viz.* about an Eighth of an Inch. The *Pods* are long,

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ſmooth and ſtrait, ending in a Point; ſome of them above Four Inches long, and not thicker than a Crow's Quill; the Seeds are ſmall, brown, ſhort, thick and turgid; each ſeparated in the Pod by a thin, ſpungy *Interſepimentum* or Partition.

2. *Aconcroba*, being boyled in Wine, and drank, is good in the Small Pox. Mr. *J. S.*

This I have mentioned at No. 21. in my Firſt *Century*, its *Leaves* are ſtiff as the *Phyllirea*, and opake (*i. e.*) not to be ſeen through, they grow oppoſite on very ſhort Footſtalks, are taper at Points and baſe, the largeſt one Inch and ¼ (in the Middle) where broadeſt, and Three Inches long, very much reſembling our *Common Bay*, are Black (now dry) on the upper ſide, and of a Pale Green underneath.

3. *Acroe*, Boyl'd in Wine and drank, is good to recover Strength. Mr. *J. S.*

This is a *Trifoliate Shrub*, it hath the Face of the *Coral arbor*, but is not ſpinoſe, the middle or top Leaf ſtands on an Inch pedicle, whereas the Two oppoſites have none.

4. *Affunnena*, Boyl'd in Wine and drank, cauſes a Stool. Mr. *J. S.*

5. *Afoba*, Pounded and mixt with Oyl, is good for the Itch or Crocoes. Mr. *J. S.*

This is a ſort of *Phaſeolus*, or *Kidney-Bean*, with ſmall hairy Leaves and Stalks.

6. *Afto*, dryed to Powder and ſnuft, is good for the Head-ach, Mr. *J. S.*

Eryſimum lignoſum Guineenſe tomentoſum, nob.

7. *Ambettuway*, boyled and drank, cauſeth an Appetite to any ſick Perſon. Mr. *J. S.*

The *Leaves* of this in Shape and Roughneſs are like our *Common Elm.*

8. *Amea*,

8. *Amea*, Dried into Powder and Snufr, ſtops the bleeding, Mr. *J. S.*

This hath alated or winged Leaves, and ſeems to be one of the *Pajamirioba* kinds, which you have ſo clearly diſtinguiſhed in your moſt excellent *Catalogue* of *Jamaica Plants*, at Page 148.

9. *Apobee*, Boyl'd and drank, is good for the Small Pox. Mr. *J. S.*

Chryſanthemum acaulon Guineenſe, foliis longis anguſtis, nob.

10. *Aputtaſy*, The Teeth being waſht with a Decoction of this in Water, is good for the Scurvy in the Mouth. Mr. *J. S.*

This Tree obſerves no Order in the Poſition or ſetting on of its Leaves, being farther or nearer, and ſometimes oppoſite, they are broad at the Baſe, with ſcarce any Foot Stalk, and ſo continue about Two Thirds, and then grow taper, are ſmooth and ſhining above, but ſoft beneath, and ſomewhat downy, eſpecially the greater Ribs, which being held to the Light are darkly clouded, the largeſt Leaves are about Two Inches and an Half long, and One broad.

11. *Aguaguin*, made into a Plaiſter and applied to a Cut, cures it. Mr. *J. S.*

The *Leaves* of this Shrub reſemble the *Common Lilac* or *Blew Pipe Tree*; they grow alternately, and ſtand on half Inch Footſtalks; if held to the Light you may perceive the leſſer Veins very finely reticulated and ſubdivided.

12. *Aſaſi*, Boyl'd and ſo kept in the Mouth, is good for the Tooth-ach. Mr. *J. S.*

This Tree ſomewhat reſembles the *Laurel*, in reſpect to the Shape and Stiffneſs of its Leaves, which grow alternately on ſhort Footſtalks; its Branches are Black-

iſh, rugged and ſprinkled with ſmall, Reddiſh, Spangle-like Specks.

13. *Aſcindoe*, Boyl'd and the Water drank is good for the Running in the Reins. Mr. *J. S.*

Frutex Guineenſis ſpinoſus foliis ſubrotundis crenatis floribus filamentoſis, nob.

This is a Thorny Shrub, with roundiſh, ſmooth, crenated *Leaves*, ſomewhat more than an Inch broad, and about One and an Half long; theſe are ſet on very ſhort Footſtalks; at the top of each Branch ſtand ſmall thrummy *Flowers*; its *Thorns* are bigger or leſs according as they come from the ſmaller or leſſer Branches.

14. *Aſſaba*, Warmed in Water, and the Groin rubbed with it, is good for a Buboe. Mr. *J. S.*

15. *Aſſerida*, Chewed, is very good for the Belly-ach. Mr. *J. S.*

16. *Aſſrumina*, Pounded and rub'd on the Legs, killeth the Worms that breed there. Mr. *J. S.*

17. *Atanta*, Is very good to put in Broath for a Sick Man or Woman, it cauſing Strength. Mr. *J. S.*

Rhus Guineenſe trifoliatum ſcabrum ſerratum, nob.

This differs from that *Cape* ſort which Dr. *Plukenet*, that moſt ſagacious Botaniſt hath Figured in his *Phytographia*, Tab. 219. under Fig 7. (by the Name of *Rhus Africanum Trifoliatum majus foliis obtuſis & inciſis hirſutie pubeſcentibus*) in having its leaves edged with prickley Notches, whereas his is ſinuated or rather deeply waved.

18. *Attrow*, Boyl'd and any ſwelled part waſhed in the Water (*i. e* Decoction) abateth it. Mr. *J. S.*

Kali Guineenſe foliis Polygoni, floribus verticilli in modum diſpoſitis, nob.

I ſhall reſerve its Deſcription until I give you the Figure of it, which I deſign with ſome other *Guinea Plants*, *Inſects*, &c.

19. *Attrum-*

19. *Attrummaphoe*, Boyl'd and drank, cauſeth the great ſort of Pox to Skin and dry. Mr. *J. S.*

The Juice of this Weed being ſnuft up the Noſe, is good to make one ſneeze. Mr. *Edward Bartar.* Of the Decoction of this Plant, is made a Drink good againſt the Phrenſy. *Hort. Malab.*

Colutea languinoſa Floribus parvis ſiliquis piloſis deorſum tendentibus Muſ. Petiver. 45. *Orientalis plerumque heptaphyllos hirſuta, floribus ſpicatis ſaturate purpureis, ſiliquis plurimis quadratis valde piloſis ſummo ſucculorum dependentibus.* Alm. Botan. *p.* 113. It was called by Dr. *Herman* (that late incomparable Botaniſt) *Aſtragalus Indicus ſpicatus ſi liquis copioſis deorſum ſpectantibus non falcatis ſeu Polylobos.* And by the Inhabitants of *Ceylon Pilæghas*, as *Joannes Comelinus* aſſerts, in his Commentaries on the *Hortus Malabaricus*, in the Ninth Volume of which noble Herbal there is an *Icon* of this Plant, under the Name of *Katu* (which ſignifies *Sylveſtris* or wild) *Tagera*, *Tab.* 30. *p.* 55. Whoſe Deſcription of it I ſhall briefly tranſcribe and interſperſe my own Obſervations concerning it. It grows in ſandy Places, about Two or Three Foot high; the *Roots* fibroſe and whitiſh; its *Stalks* woody, rediſh, and very hairy; the *Leaves* grow by Pairs, with one at the Extremity having Three or Five (*I have Samples of it with Seven or more*) covered on both ſides with a ſoft woollineſs (*which are not expreſt in the Figure, the like Omiſſion I find in many others in this Work, whoſe Leaves,* &c. *are delineated ſmooth, although the Deſcription and things themſelves declare them otherwiſe*) they have an aſtringent *Taſt*, and are ſomewhat biting.

It hath many ſmall deep Purple Papilionaceous *Flowers* growing in a Spike to the top (of a Leafleſs Stalk;) its *Calyx is compoſed of* Six very narrow Hairy Leaves, the Pods are alſo very hairy, roundiſh, but not thicker than

a Packthread ¼ of an Inch long hanging downwards on ſhort (*or rather no*) Footſtalks; the *Seeds* are ſmall, lye length ways in the Pod, and are ſeparated by a (*thin*) Partition.

20. *Bumbunny*, Boyl'd and drunk, cauſeth to vomit. Mr. *J. S.*

21. *Caggow*, Boyl'd in Water, and waſh the Teeth, is good for the Tooth-ach. Mr. *J. S.*

The *Leaves* of this Tree are ſmooth and ſhining, like the *Lawrel*, but thinner and veined like the *Bay*, they are Two Inches and ¼ broad, and between Four and Five long, theſe are round at the Baſe, and pointed at the Tip, or End, they ſtand on an Half Inch Footſtalk, Black next the Stalk and Leaf, and Greeniſh in the Middle, its *Veins* are very conſpicuous and much ſubdivided on both ſides.

22. *Canto*, Boyl'd and drunk is good for the Running (I ſuppoſe of the Reins.) Mr. *J. S.*

23. *Concon*, Pounded and mixt with Oyl, killeth the Worms in the Legs, by anointing with it. Mr. *J. S.*

Theſe *Leaves* differ from the *Caggow-Tree*, at No. 21. in being thicker, ſtiffer, and not ſo full of Veins. Theſe are broadeſt within ⅓ of the Baſe, and from thence grow regularly tapering; its Footſtalks are thicker, ſomewhat longer, and all of a Colour.

24. *Cuttofoe*, Boyl'd in Water and drank, is good for the Belly-ach. Mr. *J. S.*

Anonis non ſpinoſa minor glabra procumbens fl. luteo. D. H. Sloane Cat. Plantar. Jamaic. p. 75. This being that which you ſo plentifully find in *Jamaica*, particularly on the Banks of the *Rio Cobre* near the City of St. *Jago de la Vega*, or *Spaniſh-Town*: I ſhall here omit its Deſcription expecting both that and its Figure in your much deſired *Natural Hiſtory of Jamaica*, which you have

have been ſo kind to promiſe the World the ſudden Publication of.

25. *Dancreta*, Boyl'd in Water, and if the Head is hot, waſh'd in the Water, abateth the Heat. Mr. *J. S.*

Convolvulus quinque folius Guineenſis foliis non ſerratis. nob.

That laborious and indefatigable Reviver of Botany, *Caſper Bauhine*, in his *Prodromus*, *p.* 134. gives you the figure of an *Ægyptian Convolvulus*, which he calls *Quinquefolius*, that exactly reſembles this in every thing, the fine notcht Serratures of its Leaves only excepted, which in my Specimens are not clearly to be ſeen, although ſome of them ſeem to have ſuch a Tendency or Diſpoſition.

26. *Dinjohn*, Warm'd at the Fire, and applied to a Boil, breaks it. Mr. *J. S.*

27. *Emphrue*, Boyl'd and drank, cauſes Strength in Sickneſs. Mr. *J. S.*

Mori folio non crenato Arbor Guineenſis, nob.

28. *Heniecoe*, Boyl'd in Wine, is good for the Belly-ach. Mr. *J.* S.

29. *Iſſong*, Put in Water, and the Head waſht cureth the Head-ach. Mr. *J. S.*

Piſum veſicarium, fructu nigro alba macula notato CB. 343. *cordatum veſicarium* Park. 1378. *Fig. Halicacabum peregrinum* ber. 271. *Fig.* id. emac. 342. *Fig.* It's alſo figured in the Eighth Volume of the *Hortus Malabaricus*, *Tab.* 28. *p.* 53. under the *Malabar* Name of *Vlinga*. It's call'd at *Barbadoes*, from whence I have alſo received it *Parſly*. I find you have alſo obſerved it plentifully in *Jamaica*, as appears by your incomparable Catalogue at *p.* 111. to which for the Readers eaſe, I refer them to the many other ſynonimous Names, you have there with ſo much pains collected together.

30. *Mening*,

30. *Mening*, Dried and made into Powder and ſnuft, is good for the Stoppage of the Head. Mr. *J. S.*

Ricinus Guineenſis Hederæ quinquefol. Virginianæ facie, foliis hirſutis, nob.

31. *Metacoe*, Pounded, and ſo applied, is good for a Cut. Mr. *J. S.*

With theſe Leaves the Blacks alſo make Match for their Muskets, as my kind Friend, Mr. *Edward Bartar* informs me.

32. *Obrang*, Boyl'd in Water, and ſo waſh the Cods, is good for the ſwelling. Mr. *J. S.*

Glycyrrhizæ folio ſingulari, Frutex Guineenſis ſpinis gemellis, nob.

33. *Pocumma*, Pounded and dried and Bak'd in Bread is good for the Flux. Mr. *J. S.*

34. *Santeo*, boyl'd, and the Eyes waſht with the Water, taketh away any Film or Pearl. Mr. *J. S.*

The *Leaves* of this Tree grow oppoſite, with one at the end without Footſtalks; the Joynts and ſetting on of the Leaves are blackiſh, they are of the make and bigneſs of the *Lawrel.*

35. *Sora*, Boyl'd and drank, is good for any Pain about the Body. Mr. *J. S.*

The Leaves of this Shrub have the Shape and Bigneſs of thoſe of *Sena*, but are ſomewhat woolly underneath, and are ſet on very ſhort Foot-ſtalks.

36. *Tetrephoe*, Boyl'd in Broath is good for the *Flux.* Mr. *J. S.*

This Plant grows alſo in *Malabar*, where they uſe the Root boyl'd in Whey, as a Remedy againſt the *Piles*, and the Powder of it cures the Belly-ach, *Hort. Malab.*

Xanthium Malabaricum capitulis lanuginoſis Muſ. Petiv. 99. *Betæ folio Malabarica ſemine Lappaceo* Com. *not. in* H. Mal. *Wellia Codiveli* H. Mal. *V.* 10. *Tab.* 59. *p.* 117. From whence, and my own Specimens, I ſhall here

here give you a ſhort Deſcription of it. It's Stalks are ſomewhat woody and hoary (eſpecially towards the top) the Leaves grow (by Pairs) on ſhort Footſtalks, the young ones are Velvetty underneath, the others in ſhape and hoarineſs not unlike *Pulmonaria maculoſa*, or *Spotted Lungwort*, but ſeldom ſo large. The Flowers grow cloſe together in a Spike, and are compoſed of Five Greeniſh Leaves fill'd with a Scarlet Thrummy Tuft. After that, towards the ripening of the Seed, the Burs in which they are included grow more ſpars'd, or at greater diſtance; they are covered with a woolly Subſtance, out of which proceed ſmall hamated or crooked Prickles, very like our Engliſh Burdock (but Four times leſs) and ſtick like them to whatever they touch. In each of theſe is one ſmall, longiſh, flat, vetch-like, blackiſh, ſhining *Seed*. It grows in any Soil. My ingenious Friend, Mr. *Sam. Brown*, hath alſo ſent it me from *Fort St. George*, where I find there are many Plants, the ſame with thoſe in *Guiney*.

37. *Tetruma*, Pounded to Powder and applied to a *Whitlow*, breaks it. Mr. *J. S.*

Lauruſtini facie Arbor Guineenſis, nob.

The *Leaves* are oval, ſtiff and opak, One Inch and $\frac{3}{4}$ broad, and $2\frac{1}{4}$ long, ſet alternately on all ſides of the Stalk, on very ſhort Pedicles, at and near the Top, from the Boſom of the Leaves, come forth Cluſters of ſmall *Flowers*, after the ſame manner with the *Lauruſtinus* or *Wild Bay*. But what theſe produce I cannot as yet inform you.

38. *Tuffo*, is very good for ſore Eyes, boyl'd in Water, and the Eyes waſht with the Decoction thereof. Mr. *J. S.*

Flos Solis Guineenſis fol. ſcabro, flore minore, nob.

39. *Unguin*, Boyl'd and drunk, is good for the Pain in the Back. Mr. *J. S.*

The Leaves grow alternately on Footſtalks near an Inch long, they have the exact Shape and Face of the *Common Bay*, but neither its Smell or Taſte.

40. *Unnena*, Boyl'd, and the Legs waſht in the Water, abateth their Swelling. Mr. *J. S.*

Lychnis Guineenſis fructu Caryophylloide, foliis hirſutis Roriſmarini anguſtioribus, nob.

This Plant being altogether new, I deſign its *Deſcription* and *Figure* amongſt ſome other curious things I intend to preſent you withal, relating to *Africa*. It being my great Ambition to approve my ſelf, as in reality I am

WORTHY SIR,

Your moſt Obliged

and very humble Servant,

James Petiver.

From the *White Croſs* in *Alderſgate-Street London*, *Sept.* 22. 1697.